

TANEY COUNTY REPUBLICAN

Vol. 21. No. 14.

FORSYTH, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1916.

Four Pages.

Washington Letter

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

MR. WILSON RETURNS:—President Wilson has returned from his first stumping tour overjoyed at the size of the crowds which turned out to see him, apparently unconscious of the inconsistencies in his speeches and the incongruities between them and the course of other members of his Administration during his absence. The president's enthusiasm over the crowds which turned out to hear him recall the pertinent story of a certain distinguished Republican who was a candidate for high office in 1900, when William McKinley was running against William J. Bryan. Astounded at the crowds which came to hear him and his fellow Republican speakers in the West, this statesman, having completed his speech, left the platform and addressed a citizen on the edge of the crowd. "Did you ever have as big a crowd in this town before?" He inquired. "Yes once," was the laconic reply. "When was that?" "When Bryan spoke here," replied the townsman. Somewhat abashed, the statesman ventured another question. "Did you ever have a bigger crowd in this town?" he asked. "Yes once," the townsman again replied. "Why, when was that?" asked the surprised Republican. "About a year ago," was the reply. "It was when we had a breach-of-promise case at the Courthouse in the morning and a circus in the afternoon." The newspapermen who accompanied the President say that his crowds were larger but they greatly doubt the success of the trip from the political standpoint, or even from the secondary consideration, the making of converts to preparedness.

POLITICAL DIPLOMACY:—One of the most grievous sins of the Wilson Administration has been its conscienceless utilization of foreign affairs for political end and a striking instance of this has just occurred. Under the immediate supervision of Mr. Wilson, Secretary Bryan negotiated a treaty with Colombia. In order to reflect on the Roosevelt Administration and its acquisition of the Panama Canal Zone the United States was made by Mr. Bryan to agree to pay to Colombia an indemnity of \$25,000,000 and to embody in the treaty an apology for the course of the United States. Experienced statesmen, including both Democratic and Republican Senators, begged the President not to permit the treaty to be signed, assuring him that the Senate never could be induced to ratify such an agreement and that if he caused Mr. Bryan to sign it it could only unwarrantably raise the hopes of the Colombians and ultimately in their believing the United States guilty of bad faith. As usual, Mr. Wilson turned a deaf ear to all advice and even asserted that the treaty contained no apology. He caused Mr. Bryan to sign it and the Colombian Senate ratified it. The treaty has been long pending in the Foreign Relations Committee of our Senate and has this week been amended by reducing the indemnity to \$15,000,000 and greatly modifying the apology which, despite Mr. Wilson's denials, it was found to contain. Even in this form there is little likelihood that the Senate will ratify it, but already the Colombians are intensely indignant. Their Minister is charging the United States with bad faith, and the President's willingness to play politics in his dealing with this little South American country has more than undone all the good his Administration may have accomplished in its efforts to cultivate the friendship of the Republics to the South of us.

PLAYING POLITICS WITH GERMAN:—Again it is announced from the White House that a "grave crisis" with Germany. The German government has agreed to indemnify the heirs of those lost on the Lusitania and to give assurance that no more passenger vessels will be sunk without removing non-combatant passengers to places of safety, and the fact that this agreement is due in more to the

efficiency of British cruisers and torpedo-boat destroyers than to any diplomacy of this Government does not affect the end achieved, but President Wilson has been insisting that Germany apparently will not do. Had not the President spoken so recklessly on his recent tour, he could easily overlook the matter of a disavowal, in view of Germany's other concessions, but by his reckless speaking he has put himself in a position where he cannot back down without humiliation and there are many who believe he will sever diplomatic relations with Germany rather than take back his words. Mr. Wilson has so persistently eaten his own words addressed to the Mexicans that Germany obviously believes he will do so in this instance, so that there is, perhaps, more nearly a crisis now than there has been on many occasions when the White House cried, "Wolf, Wolf."

PREPAREDNESS INSINCERITY:—Just as President Wilson was telling Kansas and Missouri audiences that our Navy "ought, in my judgment, to be incomparably the greatest navy in the world." Rear-Admiral Strauss was being forced, by persistent questions from Republican members of the Naval Committee, to admit that Secretary Daniels had reduced by \$12,000,000 the estimate for guns which Admiral Strauss, as Chief of Ordnance, would have submitted to Congress. The estimate of \$1,274,000 for guns to repel aircraft, Secretary Daniels had struck out entirely. The insincerity and incongruity of an Administration whose head, talking for publication and to crowds of citizens, urges that the American Navy be made the biggest in the world, while behind the closed doors of the Navy Department his Secretary of the navy is slaughtering the estimates of competent naval officers with a view to deceiving Congress as to the Navy's needs are likely to constitute the chief obstacle to preparedness, as they most gravely reflect on the Administration. And just when Admiral Strauss was reluctantly admitting what Secretary Daniels had done, the British collier Franz Fisher, was going to its doom, sunk by a bomb dropped from a German Zeppelin.

Leap Year

The custom which ordains that a woman may propose marriage to a man in leap year dates back seven or eight hundred years. An act of the Scottish Parliament, passed about the year 1228, made it a crime punishable by a fine, for an unattached man to refuse to become a life partner of a woman who had the courage to "speak ye mon she liked!"

The custom in a milder form is referred to in a work published in 1606 entitled "Courtship Love and Matrimony."

"Albeit it has now become a part of the common law in regard to social relations of life that as often as every bissextile year doth return, the ladies have the sole privilege during the time it continueth of making love unto the men, which they doe either by wordes or by looks, as to them it seemeth proper; and moreover, no man shall be entitled to the benefit of clergy who doth in any wise treat her proposal with slight or contumely."—From The People's Home Journal for February.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo has secured an additional and emergency appropriation of \$50,000 for expenditure before July 1 in the rural sanitation work of the Bureau of health. If there are any deserving Democrats who are doctors, there won't be any difficulty in spending the money.

The way the European War has demoralized the American rural mail delivery service is something appalling. We doubt if rural mail conditions are any worse in the nations engaged in the conflict in Europe.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, but the price of gasoline is somewhat dependent upon whether Congress will accept Wilson's plans for new taxation.

Missouri's Old Constitution

All Missourians will agree with Dr. Isidor Loeb that the state constitution framed in 1875 is not adapted to present conditions. There have been greater changes within the last forty years than in any other like period in history. Electric lights, telephones and trolleys are among the revolutionary inventions within the period. There have been almost as great changes in distribution of wealth and of people and in the conception of the proper functions of the state and of municipalities. The trouble with the old constitution is that it is too legislative and that its specific regulations and restrictions do not fit present conditions. Most makers of state constitution seem to have felt that wisdom was born with them and that it was likely to die with them, so they marked out the path legislatures should follow without deviation. There have been seventy-four attempts to correct some of the faults by constitutional amendments, but in recent years the very number of proposed amendments has resulted in the defeat of practically all. There is a growing belief that the only remedy lies in a complete revision of the constitution.

Many observers of recent constitutional conventions have little hope of the drafting of a short, simple constitution, giving the legislature ample power to deal with new questions as contemporary judgment thinks best. Even the severest critics of the obsolete provisions are sure that they could provide new regulations that would work all time, and unless the average citizens of the state organize on other than ordinary partisan lines, the laddists, holding the balance of power, will force a majority of candidates to agree in advance to the incorporation of their pet provisions. This was the trouble in Oklahoma, where a small body of men, representing an organized minority of the voters, persuaded 70 of the 112 members of the constitutional convention to pledge themselves to the support of thirty-nine distinct proposals in advance of their election. But even with this danger, which can be obviated if the commercial clubs and other business organizations of the state throw themselves into the fight for the election of able and conscientious delegates, free to avail themselves of the experience of other states, it were better to make the trial than to remain trammelled by the old constitution. If the revised constitution contained more bad than good, it could be defeated when submitted.—Globe Democrat.

Patriotism In The House

Patriotism rose above partisanship in the House of Representatives Monday when Speaker Clark and Minority Leader Mann fought shoulder to shoulder in support of the first two bills of the general program of preparation of the national defense. Some may conceive it to have been partisanship of the highest order, but, even accepting that assumption, it was a rare spectacle and showed a recognition of the truth of the too often neglected adage: "He serves his party best who serves his country best." But Mr. Mann's position was apparently more disinterested than this. He might have nagged the democrats about their previous position, of which he had a vivid recollection, but he declared: "It is not the time for crimination and recrimination. It is the time for all to join hands for that which may come." The spirit of the leaders was contagious and not a member of the House voted against the bill increasing appointments to Annapolis by 300. There was not even a roll call on the other bill, appropriating \$600,000 for the improvement of Mare Island and the New York navy yards. A few members, including Majority Leader Kitchin and Representative Hensley of Missouri, sat silent, although the former voted for the Annapolis bill.

The action of the House is not conclusive as to what will happen to the larger bills, providing for a great increase in naval expenditures. Nor

does it signify what will be done about strengthening the army. In the course of debate there were incidental references to military preparedness. Support of the continental army plan is almost negligible in the House. It may be difficult to reconcile divergent views as to the character of military preparedness, but it begins to look as if Congress will make an honest effort to enlarge both the army and navy and provide for aircraft and coast defenses. The scene Monday is one which will linger in the memory, like that when the Republicans and Democrats united in placing \$20,000,000 at the disposal of President McKinley to prepare for the imminent trouble with Spain.—Globe Democrat.

That our export trade in cotton goods to China has dropped to one-third of what it has been, while that of Japan has increased nearly nine times, as shown in a report of Ralph Odell, of the Department of Commerce, will surprise nobody who takes into consideration the fact that the Japanese wage scale is about one twelfth that paid in American mills, and the success which has attended the efforts of Japan in imitating American-made goods. The loss of trade is bad enough, but another thing the American manufacturers have to face is the prospect that the present huge expansion of the cotton cloth industry in Japan may result in her getting into our domestic market and put the home producers out of business, unless adequate protection is afforded the industry here. If Japan can make prices agreeable to the Chinese there is no reason why under a Democratic tariff law, she can not invade the American market.

His Hope will Be Fulfilled

Mr. Wilson told his audience in New York that he hoped every public man will get what is coming to him this year. We do not know whom he had in mind when he said this—but we have in mind at this writing a public man who took office not long ago on a pledge to reduce the cost of living. It costs more to live to-day than ever before. He pledged himself to free passage of the Panama Canal for American vessels. Our ships now pay full tolls in the canal. He pledged himself to the principle of one term in his office. He is now a candidate for re election. That public man certainly will get what is coming to him.

Senator Tillman, a Democrat and a defender of President Wilson, says that the appointment of Brandeis to the Supreme Bench was a reply to the Gary dinner to Col. Roosevelt. If the President's friends choose to take that view of it, we Republicans can't be blamed if we accept the interpretation. But if that be the case, it is the first time in our recollection that a president has let not merely partisan but personal politics influence the appointment of a Supreme judge.

Wilson's latest somersault lands him in a position favoring a tariff commission. It is to be, of course, "non-partisan and scientific." In view of the manner in which Wilson made his appointments to the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Trade Commission, we suggest that wisdom on his part would demand that the tariff commission bill should be framed so as to provide, in definite terms, for the appointment of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats in its membership.

Argentine shipment of wool to the United States are increasing at a great rate under the provisions of the Democratic tariff law. From October 1 to December 23, 1915, 31,396 bales were shipped to this country, compared with 3,317 bales for the same period in 1914, both periods being under the Democratic tariff law, which placed wool on the free list. This is an increase of 846 per cent.

Evidently President Wilson is not too proud to fight for a renomination.

County Court Proceedings.

County Court met in regular session on the 7th day of February at the office of the County Clerk at the court house in Forsyth, Taney county, Mo., with the following officers in attendance Geo. T. Hicks, Presiding Judge; J. M. Holliday and J. G. Haskins, Associate Justices; W. R. Adams, Prosecuting Attorney; N. D. Boles, Sheriff and J. R. Gideon, County Clerk, when and where the following proceedings were had and made matters of record:

Ordered that the annual settlement of J. T. Sturman be accepted and a warrant ordered drawn in his favor on the special road and bridge fund for \$5.50.

Ordered that the annual settlement of Abe Cole be approved, and his account of \$8.00 be allowed.

Ordered that the annual report of D. W. Wyman be accepted.

Claim of Gardner Office Supply Co. for \$47.50, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of C. L. Stottle for \$5.00, for serving as a member of the county text book commission, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that the quarterly report of W. R. Adams be approved.

Ordered that the quarterly report of W. R. Adams of fees uncollected be approved.

Ordered that the annual settlement of Geo. H. Dean be approved and his account of \$25.81 be allowed.

Claim of W. R. Adams for \$83.33 filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that a warrant for \$30.00 be drawn in favor of J. M. Cummings for the keeping of Boone Smith for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Ordered that a warrant for \$20.00 be drawn in favor of Lee Haggard for the keeping of Sherman Logan for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Ordered that a warrant for \$40.00 be drawn in favor of R. J. Patterson for the care of the Clowers family for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Ordered that the annual settlement of A. V. Floyd be approved and his account of \$13.50 be allowed.

Ordered that a warrant for \$6.00 be drawn in favor of L. S. Roberts for two wolf scalps.

Ordered that the annual settlement of T. C. Anderson be approved and his account of \$1.25 be allowed.

Ordered that a warrant for \$30.00 be drawn in favor of B. T. Thurman for the care of Sam Carpenter for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Ordered that the annual settlement of A. B. Clemons be approved.

Ordered that the annual settlement of John Byrns be approved.

Claim of F. V. Baldwin for \$44.51, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of J. R. Gideon for \$61.00, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of F. F. Baily for \$45.00, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that the annual statement of fees collected by J. R. Gideon, county clerk, be approved.

Ordered that the quarterly settlement of J. R. Gideon be approved.

Ordered that the settlement of J. C. Davis for the month of January be approved and ordered filed.

Ordered that Court adjourn until 8:30 o'clock tomorrow.

February 8, 1916.

Court convened pursuant to adjournment at 8:30 o'clock, present same as on the preceding day.

Now on this 8th day of February, 1916, comes C. B. Sharp and claims the sum of \$1250.57 is due the Branson Special Road District. It is shown to the satisfaction of the court that said sum is due said district, and it is ordered by the Court that a warrant for that amount be drawn in favor of F. A. Cahill, treasurer of said district.

Ordered that a warrant for \$416.63 be drawn in favor of F. A. Cahill on the special road and bridge fund, same being the amount due the Branson Special Road District for taxes collected in said district during 1915-16.

Ordered that a warrant be drawn in favor of Jesse Chandler for \$30.00 for care of Mrs. Mr. A. Henderson for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Ordered that a warrant for \$442.89 be drawn in favor of B. J. Butler, on the special road and bridge fund, being the amount due Taneyville Special Road District for taxes collected in said district.

Ordered that a warrant be drawn in favor of Sam Parnell for \$25.00 for the support of James Gardner and wife for the quarter ending Jan. 31, 1916.

Claim of Arthur James for \$66.69, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of Arthur James for \$163.03, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that a warrant for \$1819.80 be drawn in favor of R. C. Ford, treasurer of Forsyth Special Road District, the amount due for taxes collected in said district.

Ordered that the report of J. C. Davis of abstract of fees be approved and ordered filed.

Ordered that the annual statement of fees of U. G. Johnson be approved and ordered filed.

Claim of W. R. Adams for \$83.33, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of Matthews Lumber Co. for \$2.62, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of David Baird for \$4.25, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that the annual settlement of Dan Johnson be approved and his account of \$5.30 be allowed.

In the matter of the road petition of Andrew Lowry et al. petition filed and examined by the Court and found to be in legal form, and it is ordered that N. D. Wallace is to survey and mark out said road and the petitioners are to assist the surveyor on said road without cost to the county.

Claim of J. W. Bennett for \$5.18, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of J. W. Bennett for \$150.00 filed, examined and allowed, warrant ordered on officers fund of 1915, being the amount due county superintendent, \$100 being the state's part and \$50 the county's part of salary.

Ordered that the annual settlement of E. A. Shaum be approved, and his account of \$6.55 be allowed.

Ordered that the annual settlement of Z. P. Moore be approved and his account of \$1.12 be allowed.

Ordered that a warrant be drawn in favor of Wm. Melton for \$5.00 on the pauper fund, same being for the care of W. T. S. Pruitt for the month of January, 1916.

Claim of Forsyth Mercantile Co. for \$6.15, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Claim of Stottle Bros. for \$2.60, filed, examined and allowed in open court.

Ordered that Court adjourn until 8:30 o'clock tomorrow.

February 9, 1916.

Court convened pursuant to adjournment at 8:30 o'clock, present same as on the preceding day.

Ordered that a requisition be made on the state auditor for \$100.00, same being the state's part of the salary of the county superintendent for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1915.

Ordered that the semi-annual report of Arthur James, county treasurer, be approved, and the same is therefore ordered put on the record in full.

Ordered that the old papers as provided in Sec. 8735, R. S. 1909, be burned by the sheriff.

Now comes W. E. Hall with the Assessor's books, and the same are examined and accepted.

Claim of W. E. Hall for \$1066.37, filed, examined and allowed in the sum of \$1059.52.

Ordered that the report of the Kirbyville-Hollister Special Road District be approved and ordered filed.

Ordered that a warrant be drawn in favor of G. M. Watt for \$20.00 same

(Continued on page three)